

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating a disorder resulting from dopamine-related dysfunction, comprising the steps of:

5 administering to a patient a full D₁ agonist wherein said agonist has a half-life of less than 6 hours and wherein said agonist is administered at a dose resulting in a first plasma concentration of agonist capable of activating D₁ dopamine receptors to produce a therapeutic effect; and

10 reducing said agonist dose at least once every 24 hours to obtain a second lower plasma concentration of agonist wherein said second concentration of agonist results in suboptimal activation of D₁ dopamine receptors for a period of time sufficient to prevent induction of tolerance.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the agonist is selected from the group consisting of dinapsoline, dinoxyline, dihydrexidine, other D₁ agonists, and analogs and derivatives of said agonists, and combinations thereof.

15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of Parkinson's disease, autism, attention deficit disorder, schizophrenia, restless leg syndrome, memory loss, and sexual dysfunction.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said agonist is administered parenterally.

20 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said parenteral administration route is selected from the group consisting of intradermal, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intrathecal, and intravenous administration.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein said parenteral administration is achieved using a sustained or pulsatile or sustained release dosage form.

25 7. The method of claim 4 wherein said parenteral administration is achieved using a metering pump.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said agonist is administered intranasally.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said agonist is administered orally.

30 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said agonist is administered in combination with an antioxidant.

-43-

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the period of time for reducing said agonist dose to obtain said second plasma concentration of agonist is at least one hour per each 24-hour dosing period.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the period of time for reducing said
5 agonist dose to obtain said second plasma concentration of agonist is about one hour to about four hours per each 24-hour dosing period.